category under the TPDS which was implemented *w.e.f.* June, 2006 and April, 2007 respectively, by linking them to the offtake figures of the previous three years *i.e.* 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06. Further, in view the constraints on availability of rice in the Central Pool due to lower procurement during KMS 2006-07 and KMS 2007-08 than overall demands from States/UTs, including Orissa, allocations of rice for APL category to States/UTs for 2008-09 have been made on the basis of average of offtake level of APL rice during 2006-07 and 2007-08. Allocations of wheat during 2008-09 were initially made at earlier rationalized levels bill in view of higher procurement in RMS 2008-09, additional allocations have been made subsequently.

However, 7.42 lakh APL families of KBK districts of Orissa are also being allocated foodgrains @ 35 kgs. per family per month at BPL issue price due to special problems of these districts.

The allocation (including adhoc/additional allocation) and offtake of foodgrains in respect of Orissa for the period from 2005-06 to 2008-09 are as follows:

(in thousand tons)

Year	Allocation	Offtake
2005-06	2852.256	1357.671
2006-07	2535.682	1248.271
2007-08	1900.067	1627.519
2008-09	1845.504	1371.064*

*upto December, 2008.

Import of edible oils

603. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether with an increased uncertainty in the domestic market and weakening international market, edible oil importers are now reluctant to enter into new contracts for the imports as prices have fallen considerably by 20-28 per cent in the last one month after the duty cut announced by Government;

(b) whether Government has brought down import duties on crude palm oil to 20 per cent from 45 per cent and refined palm oil and RBD palmolein to 27.5 per cent from 52.5 per cent; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to import oil so that shortage is met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) As on 16.02.2009, the wholesale domestic prices of soyabean oil, mustard oil, groundnut oil and sunflower oil have declined by 4.77%, 12.60%, 11.86% and 8.91% respectively during the last one month, whereas the international prices of crude palm oil and soyabean oil have increased by 8.91% and 4.48% respectively during the same period. There has been an increase of about 19% in import of edible oils during January,

2009 as compared to previous month *i.e.* December, 2008.

(b) *W.e.f.* 1.4.2008, custom duty on crude palm oil has been reduced to 0% whereas custom duty on both refined palm oil and RBD palmolein had been reduced to 7.5%.

(c) In order to maintain uninterrupted supply of edible oils at affordable price to consumers, certain measures like downward revisions in the import duty on crude and refined edible oils, ban on export of major edible oils and introduction of a Scheme for distribution of subsidized edible oils through State Governments have been taken by the Government from time to time.

Demand and supply of PDS items

604. SHRI MOHD ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of each items under PDS supplied to each State, especially Andhra Pradesh;

(b) what is the demand and supply of each item under PDS; and

(c) whether the APL and BPL families especially the minorities benefited (in each State especially in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) Under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) the Government (Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution) allocates wheat, rice, coarse grains and sugar to the State/UT Governments for distribution through the Fair Price Shops (FPSs). Some States also distribute additional non-PDS items of mass consumption such as exercise books, pulses, iodised salt, tea, etc. through the FPSs. In Andhra Pradesh, the State Government also distributes enriched wheat flour, iodized salt, red gram dal, tamarind, black gram dal, green gram dal and paimolien oil through FPSs.

Allocations of food grains for AAY and BPL families are made @ 35 kg per family per month for the accepted number of families. However, allocations for APL category are made depending upon the availability of stocks of foodgrains in the Central Pool. These allocations are made based on allocation norms for TPDS. From 01.02.2001, allocation of levy sugar to States/UTs is being made only for BPL/AAY families, except for NE States, hilly States and island territories for which the allocation is being made for coverage of BPL as well as APL families.

For Andhra Pradesh, the allocations of foodgrains for AAY and BPL categories are made @ 35 kg per family per month for accepted number of 40.63 lakh BPL/AAY families in the State.

The allocation and offtake of foodgrains (wheat and rice) for APL category under TPDS in the State of Andhra Pradesh during the last 3 years and current year, are as under: